

THIS REPORT CONTAINS ASSESSMENTS OF COMMODITY AND TRADE ISSUES MADE BY USDA STAFF AND NOT NECESSARILY STATEMENTS OF OFFICIAL U.S. GOVERNMENT POLICY

Voluntary _ Public

Date: 4/24/2017

GAIN Report Number: IN7049

India

Post: New Delhi

IMD publishes First Forecast for Monsoon 2017

Report Categories:

Agricultural Situation

Agriculture in the News

Agriculture in the Economy

Climate Change/Global Warming/Food Security

Market Development Reports

Approved By:

Adam Branson

Prepared By:

Dhruv Sood

Report Highlights:

The Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) forecast a near normal Southwest Monsoon for 2017 suggesting that June to September rainfall is likely to be 96 percent of the Long Period Average. Above normal high temperatures are forecast from April to June as much of the country will witness heatwave conditions.

General Information:

Near Normal Monsoon in 2017

On April 18, 2017, the IMD, Ministry of Earth Sciences published the first forecast of the 2017 Southwest Monsoon (June to September). With 38 percent probability, the IMD forecasts that monsoon rainfall is likely to be 96 percent of the Long Period Average. The second forecast will be issued in early June. For more details refer to the [IMD Press Release](#).

**Table 1. India: IMD southwest monsoon forecast and actual rainfall
as percentage of Long Period Average (LPA)**

Year	1 st Stage Forecasted Rainfall (% of LPA)	Actual Rainfall (% of LPA)	Forecast Probability (%)	Forecast Onset Date	Actual Onset Date
2012	99	93	47	June 1	June 5
2013	98	106	46	June 3	June 1
2014	95	88	35	June 5	June 6
2015	93	86	35	May 30	June 5
2016	106	97	34	June 7	June 8
2017	96	-	38	-	-

Source: Indian Meteorological Department

Heatwave Conditions Likely from April to June

IMD has issued forecasts regarding the prevalence of above normal high temperatures between the months of April to June. All major meteorological sub-divisions across India will witness high temperatures. The season average maximum temperatures (Fig.1) are likely to be warmer than normal by ≥ 1 degree Celsius in many subdivisions in Northwestern India. According to the IMD forecast, there is a 47 percent probability of maximum temperatures being above normal in the core heat wave (HW) zone from April to June over the states of Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Delhi, Haryana, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Orissa and Telangana and the meteorological sub-divisions of Marathwada, Vidarbha, Madhya Maharashtra and coastal Andhra Pradesh. For more details refer to the [IMD Seasonal Outlook for Temperatures](#).